Had found some months asleep, and leap'd them
over.
CLA. The river hath thrice flow'd [1] no ebb be-
tween :
And the old folk, time's doting chronicles,
Say, it did so, a little time before
That our great grandsire, Edward, sick'd and died.
WAR. Speak lower, princes, for the king recovers.
P. *HUMPH.* This apoplex will, certain, be his end.
K. HEN. I pray you, take me up, and bear me
hence
Into some other chamber: softly, 'pray-
[They convey the King into an inner part of the room, and place him on a Bed.
Let there be no noise made, my gentle friends;
Unless some dull and favourable hand
Will whisper musick to my weary spirit [2].

[1] The river hath thrice flow'd.] This is historically true. It happened on the 12th of October, 1411. STEEVENS.

[2] Unless some BXILL and favourable hand
Will whisper musick to my weary spirit.] So, in the old anonymous King Henry V.:
« Depart my chamber,
" And cause some musick to rock me asleep." STEEVENS.

** Unless some *dull* and favourable hand—." *Dull* signifies *melancholy, gentle, soothing.* JOHNSON.

I believe it rather means *producing dullness* or *heaviness*; and consequently *sleep*. It appears from various parts of our author's works, that he thought musick contributed to produce sleep. So, in A Midsummer-Night's Dream:
« *musick* call, and strike more *dead*
** Than common *sleep*, of all these five the sense."
Again, in Love's Labour's Lost:
[44] And when love speaks, the voice of all the gods
[el] Makes heaven *drowsy* with the *harmony*."
So also in The Tempest, Act I. when Alonzo, Gonzalo, &c. are to be overpowered by sleep, Ariel, to produce this effect, enters,
" playing solemn *musick*." MALONE.

This notion is not peculiar to Shakspeare. So, in the exquisite lines by Strode in Commendation of Musick: